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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/090,473	03/04/2002	David T. Pollock	EDOV-56449	5102
24201	7590	11/03/2004	EXAMINER	
FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP			BUI, VY Q	
HOWARD HUGHES CENTER			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
6060 CENTER DRIVE			3731	
TENTH FLOOR				
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045				

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/090,473	POLLOCK ET AL.
	Examiner Vy Q. Bui	Art Unit 3731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-15, 21-22 and 24-32 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 16-20 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
|--|---|

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The amended drawing 22b filed 7/22/2004 introduced new matter not support by the original specification or drawings. The Applicants are requested to provide support for amended drawing 22b from the original disclosure of the present invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102/103

The quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 and 35 U.S.C. 103(a) that form the basis for the rejections under this section have been presented in the previous "Office Actions".

Claims 1-20 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by, or alternatively as being obvious over EDOGA (5,746,766).

As to claims 16-18 and 23, EDOGA (Fig. 16) discloses a prosthesis/stent 605 having a plurality of cells defined by struts having a first width, flattened bulbous tails 609/611 locate at the top and bottom of the cells. In comparison to Fig. 22B, 22C and specification lines 5-15, page 28 of this application, the adjacent flattened bulbous tails 609/611 of the EDOGA prosthesis/stent 605 are also considered as having a continuous surface that has a second width greater than the first width. Alternatively, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify the width of the flattened bulbous tails 609/611 greater than the first width of the struts, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size of a component. A change in size is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Rose*, 105 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1955).

As to claim 19, the flattened bulbous tails 609/611 in Fig. 16 are contouring into the body of the prosthesis 605 as shown in Fig. 16 copied and shown below:

As to claim 20, in comparison to Fig. 22B, 22C and specification lines 5-15, page 28 of this application, the adjacent flattened bulbous tails 609/611 of the EDOGA prosthesis/stent 605 are staggered longitudinally as well.

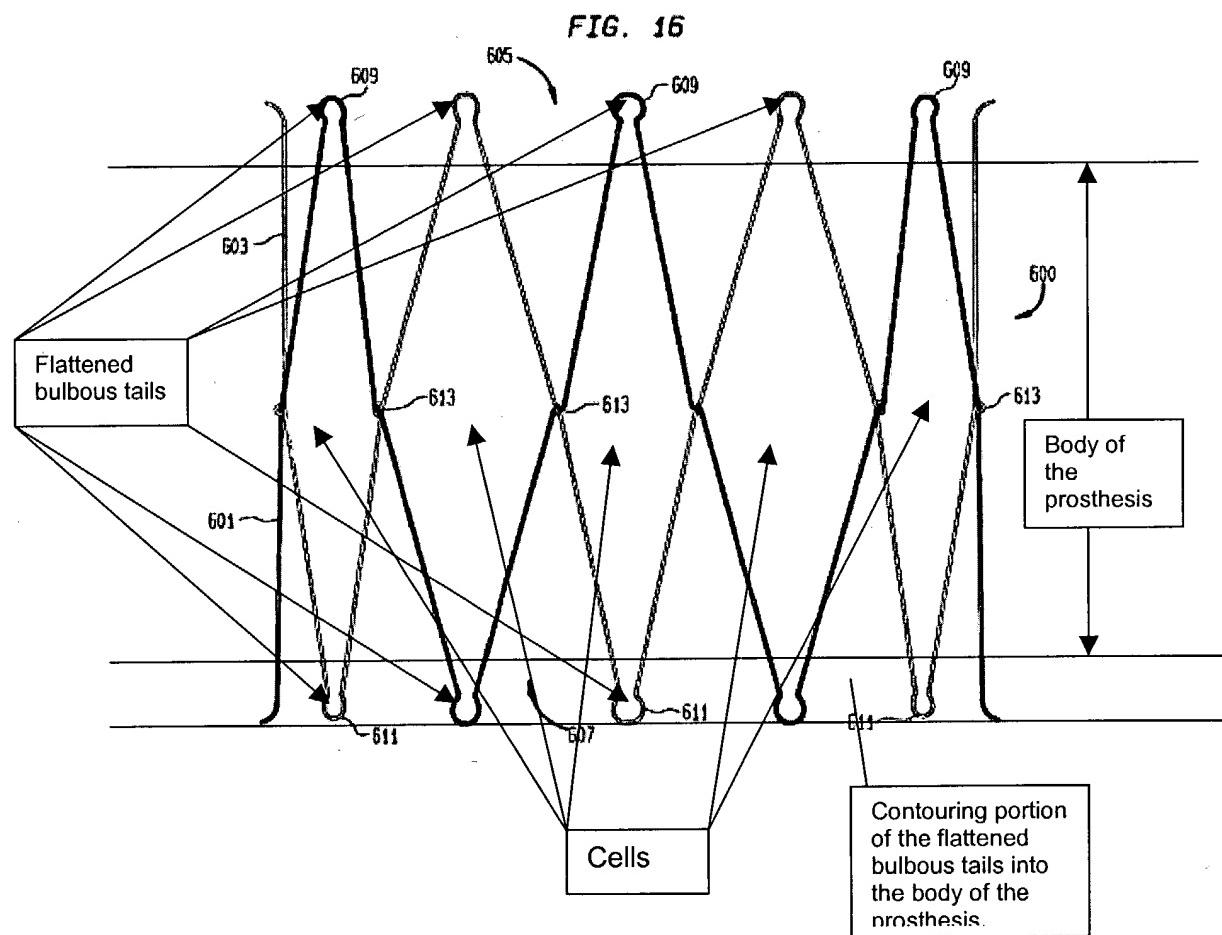


Fig. 16 (EDOGA)

Response to Amendment

Applicants' amendment of drawing 22b filed 7/22/2004 has been fully considered. However, no evidence from the original disclosure of the present invention has been presented for support of the amendment of original drawing 22b. After reviewing the original Fig. 22b and the section related to Fig. 22b (page 28, lines 5-15), the Examiner does not see any specific disclosure in the application to support the amendment of drawing 22b. Therefore, the rejection remains as indicated above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vy Q. Bui whose telephone number is 571-272-4692. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan T Nguyen can be reached on 703-308-2158. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



10/30/2004

Vy Q. Bui
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3731